

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows.

18. (Three Times Amended) A ceramic dispersoid in metal product, comprising:

- (a) a matrix metal of aluminum and
- (b) a uniform unagglomerated distribution of finely sized metal carbide particles having an average particle size of less than about 0.3 microns, said finely sized metal carbide particles selected from the group consisting of Sc, Hf, Nb, Mo, and V and said finely sized metal carbide particles formed and dispersed in-situ in said metal matrix.

Please add the following new Claim.

26. A ceramic dispersoid in metal product, comprising:

- (a) a matrix metal of aluminum and
- (b) a uniform cluster-free distribution of no more than two particles attached to one another at a magnification of 500x, having an average particle size of less than about 0.3 microns, said finely sized metal carbide particles selected from the group consisting of Sc, Hf, Nb, Mo, and V and said finely sized metal carbide particles formed and dispersed in-situ in said metal matrix of aluminum.